

STATE OF CALIFORNIA GRAY DAVIS, Governor

VICTIM COMPENSATION AND GOVERNMENT CLAIMS BOARD

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> KELLY J. BRODIE Executive Officer

Memorandum

Date: December 1, 2002

To : MEMBERS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE

From: KELLY BROIDE, Executive Officer

California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (Board)

Subject: Conclusions and Recommendations on the Child Life Specialist Pilot Program, as

required by Government Code Section 13968.5

Assembly Bill 606 (Jackson), Chapter 584, Statutes of 1999, added Government Code Section 13968.5, which established the Child Life Specialist Pilot Program. This program entitled a victim or derivative victim to be reimbursed from the Restitution Fund for grief, mourning, and bereavement services provided by a certified child life specialist in cases of death or severe trauma. This section contains a sunset date of January 1, 2004, and requires the Board to evaluate the program and report its conclusions and recommendations to the Legislature by January 31, 2003.

As of November 21, 2002, the Board has not received any claims for services provided by a child life specialist. Therefore, the Board does not see any need for this program to be continued and recommends that the program be repealed or allowed to sunset.

Please contact Sherri Gauger, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, at (916) 322-2499 if you have any questions.